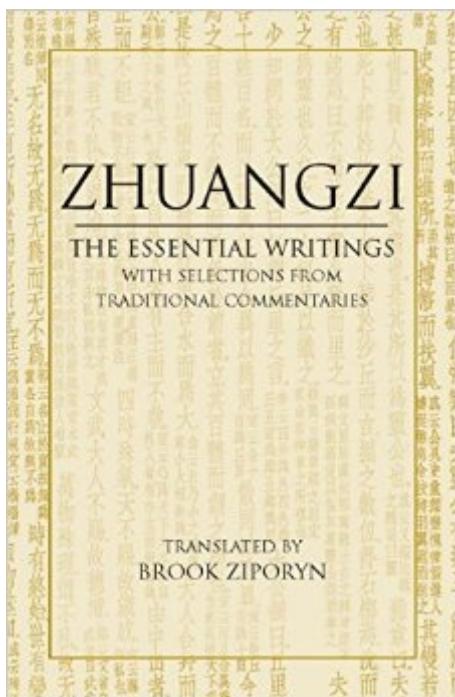


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Zhuangzi: The Essential Writings: With Selections From Traditional Commentaries (Hackett Classics)



Synopsis

Ideal for students and scholars alike, this edition of Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) includes the complete Inner Chapters, extensive selections from the Outer and Miscellaneous Chapters, and judicious selections from two thousand years of traditional Chinese commentaries, which provide the reader access to the text as well as to its reception and interpretation. A glossary, brief biographies of the commentators, a bibliography, and an index are also included.

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Customer Reviews

For those who find inspiration in Chuang Tzu, this translation of the text and the commentaries which have accompanied it from its original canonization to this day are a real treat. The translation of the text itself shows a true sympathy with its intended message. For those of us non-scholars of ancient Chinese, the commentaries provide a whole new dimension of insight into the often obscure meanings of Chuang Tzu's work. In you enjoy Chuang Tzu, much pleasure awaits you here.

This translation easily surpasses all others in print, even though scholars will still, I'm sure, refer to the AC Graham version (I will). Ziporyn has translated into current American English with style and clarity while preserving enough of the Classical Chinese cast of the text to make this a translation for scholars as well as students. I appreciate too how he has varied the translation of key terms with footnotes in romanized Chinese, so we can appreciate the dexterity of the translator's art as well as the one sustained Chinese term. Especially valuable in this edition are the superb commentaries

which give significant new insight into the passages, especially for me Guo Xiang, Wang Fuzhi, and Shi Deqing. I used this text for the first time in a discussion class at Shimer College this past semester; our discussions reached a level of maturity and insight early in the course as great or greater than we achieved in a whole semester in other years. Clearly, I recommend it highly!

This is now the best version on the market. It combines accuracy and fluency. I have been tracking through it along with Watson and Graham, and I think it is the one I will work with. The only slight reservation I have is that one misses the Graham introductions "placing" the later chapters in their philosophical contexts: but the very extensive footnoted commentaries throughout the text make up for this. Really, this version is all any but the most devoted student will need. The selections are appropriate, with the bonus of some early commentaries. Hackett strikes again!!!

This book is, in my opinion, the crowning achievement of all Taoist writers. Its subtly humorous, incredibly wise, and infinitely applicable even for modern people. If you want to learn about Taoism or just want to read a good self-improvement book this is the book to get. The Tao Te Ching is often considered the book that built the foundation of Taoism as a philosophical/religious system. If that's the case then this book is the beautiful temple built on top of the foundation.

I really love Zhuangzi; they are my favorite taoist texts. The translator has bent over backwards to explain the concepts present in an approachable fashion, often offering multiple possible translations.

I bought because I was looking for a copy of Zhuangzi, but wasn't able to find any good free translations. This one is very well done, and the traditional commentaries are a very nice touch. The translator has put a lot of effort into making the text easy to understand for people who don't have background in Chinese literature. Tricky or ambiguous spots will have a nice footnote with another possible translation or extra info you need to understand the passage. It has a glossary and points out key words that are the same in the original Chinese when they are translated in somewhat different ways according to how the English flows; this can be somewhat important to understand some of the arguments that are used based on the wording of the Chinese. The only downside is this doesn't contain the entire Zhuangzi. The inner chapters are fully present, but the translator has chosen to translate from the other parts when they support ideas from the inner chapters.

A work of dazzling scholarly endeavor. A great resource in terms of providing lots of information to

supplement your reading experience.

i found the text obtuse enough to make me ponder, yet accessible enough to be applicable on a day-to-day basis.

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